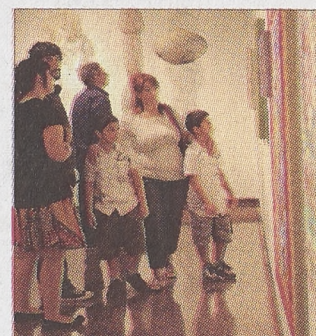




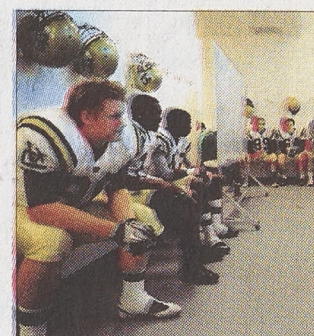
Recent events question the competence of the ASU and its President

SEE OPINION PAGE 3



The Valley College Art Gallery displayed works of three diverse artists.

SEE VALLEY LIFE PAGE 4



The Valley College football team lost 63-56 in an offensive showcase against L.A. Southwest.

SEE SPORTS PAGE 6

lavalleystar.com

November 10, 2010

Volume 73 Issue 7



JOB FAIR

Valley students speak with prospective employers at a job fair outside Monarch Hall on Wednesday. Assemblyman Mike Feuer ran the job fair in addition to participating in a panel discussion related to jobs and the economy. The event was sponsored by Valley, WorkSource Center of California, the California State Assembly, ResCare Workforce Services, the Valley Economic Alliance, and the Employment Development Department for the State of California.

VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

ASU DROPS
TALK OF
IMPEACHMENT

ASU does an about-face in talks about impeaching President Hanna Matevosyan.

JON SEELEY
NEWS EDITOR

Associated Student Union Vice President Kazooba Kawamara and the Executive Council seemed to have done an about face Tuesday as there was no talk of forcing President Hanna Matevosyan to reach certain goals or face impeachment.

Kawamara stated Tuesday, "I really support her (Matevosyan) leadership and I'm confident if we stick together and hold each other accountable ..." Kawamara further noted, "... Overall, we're doing well. We need to go back to the core values of the ASU, and we'll have a great board."

This contradicts what Kawamara stated in an interview with the Valley Star last week.

"We felt that if we brought in the president showing her what things have been going wrong with her leadership that she'd be willing to change," said Kawamara. "We let her know that if she doesn't change we would leave her behind; we would impeach her."

During last week's meeting, Kawamara and other ASU members approached Matevosyan after the official two-hour meeting was dismissed. The vice president and the Executive Council called a special closed-door session, which was in violation of the Brown Act, to hand Matevosyan the ultimatum. ASU Adviser Elizabeth Ortiz was unaware of the special meeting, said that it was not on last week's agenda and she did not attend. Matevosyan said there was no ultimatum or talk of impeachment at the closed-door session.

"The closed door meeting was about refocusing goals and having a plan," she said. "Impeachment wasn't even brought up."

The next ASU meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 2 p.m.

CARLEO CONSIDERS CUTTING WINTER SESSION

Potential loss of winter session to delay transfer or graduation for nearly 5,000 students.

STEPHANIE COLMAN
STAFF WRITER

Valley College President Sue Carleo decides today if the Winter 2011 session will be cancelled in an effort to reduce the current budget deficit of more than \$2 million. The Educational and Planning Committee made the initial recommendation during an emergency meeting Friday.

Sandy Mayo, vice president of academic affairs, estimates that

canceled winter session, which is scheduled to offer 145 course sections, will allow the campus to save approximately 200 sections in spring, at a cost savings of \$750,000. Further, it sends a message to the district that the administration is attempting to solve the budget problem without completely destroying the students.

"It's not an easy decision," Mayo said. "This is not a place where any of us want to be."

The recommendation to cut winter session follows a recent directive by newly appointed Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Daniel LaVista, requiring that the college take steps to balance the budget.

Committee members grappled with the decision to recommend

canceled winter session. Various alternatives were considered, such as cutting courses over both winter and spring, but a reduction in spring courses would impact a greater number of students and could affect their ability to receive financial aid.

"The highest demand for students is spring," said Florentino Manzano, acting vice president of student services. "Students get paid financial aid for being enrolled in 12 units. A lot of what goes on with being a full time student happens in fall and spring and has nothing to do with winter."

Nearly 5,000 students have enrolled in winter classes since registration opened on Oct. 28.

"I need one class, that's all," said Valley student and ASU mem-

ber Shaunna Lucas. "If I can't take it over winter, no university in the fall. I understand why they made the decision (to recommend cancelling winter session), but I feel they're punishing those students who want to transfer by not making them a priority."

Prior to Carleo's pending decision, the recommendation was reviewed by the Instructional Effectiveness Council, College Operations Advisory Council and Academic Senate.

In advocating for the student community, Academic Senate President Don Gauthier spoke directly to the five students attending Friday's meeting.

"Write letters. Get a petition going and send it," he said. "Unless this gets publicized, not only to

the state, but your local congressman and your district chancellor ... They don't understand the complexities of students' lives and what you must do in order to get an education. Unless you communicate in real personal ways - a letter that says, 'Here's how this has affected me,' it doesn't mean anything. You have a story, and you need to tell it so they understand the true nature of the situation."

If winter session is cancelled, administration will notify enrolled students via e-mail using their address on record. General announcements will also be made via a campus press release, Twitter and Facebook.

Follow the story as it develops online at www.lavalleystar.com.

VALLEY COLLEGE SWIMMING IN A SEA OF PINK

Valley proudly joins the fight against breast cancer.

CRISTINA SERRATO
STAFF WRITER

Amidst a sea of pink, droves of students took up arms and fought like girls at the Breast Cancer Awareness event in Monarch Square. The gathering was held Oct. 27, in conjunction with Club Day, and was a bevy of activity.

"My sister is a breast cancer survivor and I wanted to do this in her name," said Sonia Nodal, physician's assistant at Valley College's Student Health Center.

The student health center arranged the event alongside Club Day. There was live radio, dancing, food and a massage tent. The

student health center provided ribbons, brochures, informational packets, breast exam guides, small gifts and more. Students were welcomed to participate in a raffle, discuss questions or concerns about breast cancer with Nodal, and feel a prosthetic model of breast with cancerous nodules.

Attendees were welcomed to dedicate a ribbon to someone they know who has fought or lost their life to breast cancer by tying a pink ribbon to a pink balloon. "We brought 100 balloons and we thought that would be enough, but we were wrong," said Nodal. "Each balloon is supposed to represent a person, and now we are tying two or three ribbons per balloon. Amazing. The turnout today was fantastic."

According to the Young Survivors Coalition, there is no effective way for women ages

15-40 to detect breast cancer, and one in every 15,000 women under age 25 is diagnosed with the disease every year. Most are not diagnosed until the later stages. Experts say many college women don't think about breast cancer because they feel they are too young, or too busy, but it should not be neglected. According to Nodal, the best thing a woman under age 40 can do in order to prevent breast cancer is drink minimally, stay smoke-free, maintain a healthy weight and do monthly breast self-exams.

"I recommend mammograms. Early detection saved my life," said 49-year-old breast cancer survivor Elena Perez. She was diagnosed with breast cancer last December, and although she lost her voice during chemotherapy, she did not lose her fight with the

[See **AWARENESS**, Page 2]



WINDY NICELY | VALLEY STAR

AWARENESS - Valley College helped in raising awareness for breast cancer.

MONARCH FOOTBALL



Homecoming

The Monarchs' homecoming game against Pierce College at 6 p.m. Saturday will be broadcast on Time Warner at a date and time to be announced. Follow us for a live game feed on Twitter @lavcvalleystar.

ONLINE SLIDESHOW

Photos of the Week:
Day of the Dead

These features and more can be found in full @ www.lavalleystar.com

THE VALLEY STAR INFO & STAFF

THE VALLEY STAR is published by students of the Journalism and Photography classes as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program.

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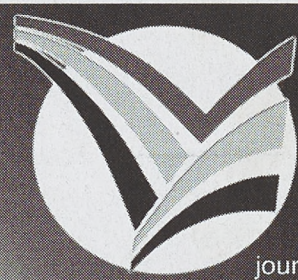
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AWARENESS

Continued from page 1

disease. "Early detection is the key to survival," she added.

For more information on breast cancer, contact the student health center at (818) 947-2918 or visit www.breastcancer.org. For information on how to perform a breast self-exam go to www.feely-ourboobies.com.



JOIN THE VALLEY STAR

The Valley Star is looking for committed students when it comes to reporting and journalism. From writers, designers to video editors and anything that could contribute to the student paper.

To receive more info on joining the Valley Star, visit us at: WWW.LAVALLEYSTAR.COM/JOIN

WRITING CENTER IS FOCUSED ON HELPING

The LAVC Writing Center gives interested visitors a chance to improve how they write.

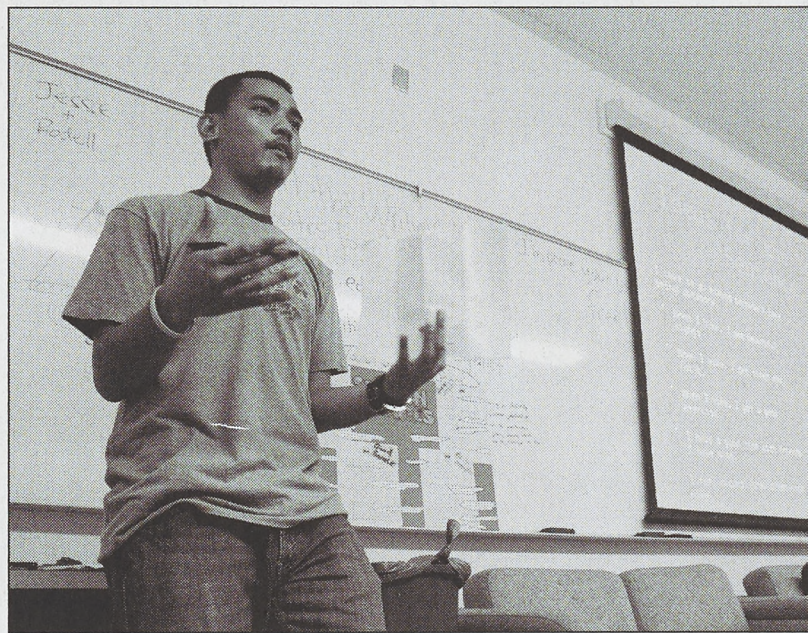
MICHAEL MKERCHYAN
STAFF WRITER

Efficient writing is a technique that requires effective content on the lines just as much as in between. Whether you're writing your first essay, admission letter for a transfer, or a thesis statement, the writing center at Valley College is a place where writers of all types can improve.

The writing center, which is located in the humanities building in rooms 100 and 102, is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1-7 p.m., and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

According to bulletins posted in the building, there are many workshops that the writing center offers for each semester, such as those for thesis statements, the writing process, punctuation, grammar, MLA and APA formatting, in-class essays, and much more.

Writing Center Director Scott Weigand said, "Anything to do with writing. Doesn't matter what it is.



A HELPING HAND - A Valley Student explaining writing techniques.

It's for any class with a writing assignment. In addition to assignments for classes, we help with scholarship essays, and transfer/admissions essays."

Weigand further states, "We can help with any kind of writing assignment from any class, through individualized feedback and interactive practice with attentive tutors in a comfortable setting."

According to the writing center pamphlet, "All students must bring their LAVC student identification

card for service, and they must enroll in a free '0' unit section of Supervised Learning Assistance."

The Valley Writing Center even offers a chance to earn college credits, with classes like English 67: Writing Lab, which is 0.5 unit; English 68: Reading Lab, 0.5 unit; and English 69: Writing and Revising on the Computer, 1 unit.

Students interested in having a tutor at the center can do so either by appointment or by walking in.

THE LOW DOWN

STATE'S DINE-AND-DASH ON EDUCATION

California can't foot the bill on education.

CRISTINA SERRATO



The California Department of Education may have had eyes bigger than what they could stomach in 2010 and without the budget to compensate, students may be footing the bill for California's "dine-and-dash" on education.

"It sucks that lawmakers are not giving people with no money a chance," said Valley College art major Jose Moran. "With fee raises there's no chance of getting ahead for people that can't barely afford [to attend] UCs and now they can't go now, and they're taking away the resources at the community college level too."

California's budget crisis had lead to cuts in education funding and tuition hikes in the last year, but recently the state has missed payments to the community college system as well.

Typically the California Community College system receives \$840 million in funds from the state; however, the state missed payments to the system totaling \$393 million in July and August.

In order to compensate California community colleges have been forced to borrow \$5 million, freeze purchases and delay vendor payments.

In fact, California Community College Chancellor Jack Scott called the three consecutive years of budget cuts "a future ticking time bomb for the California economy" in a September press release.

"The 8 percent increase is going to affect us all, but what can we do? We can't really do much," said Valley student Erika Cisneros.

Many students leave their good and trusty community colleges after a few short years to move onto bigger and better things: UCs and CSUs.

However, University of California President Mark Yudof has proposed an 8 percent increase to the UC system in order to compensate for the budget.

The proposed \$828 fee increase would raise the UC systems fee to \$11,124, which is twice of what it was in 2003. Voting on the proposal will be next week in San Francisco.

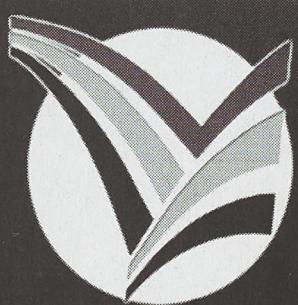
California State University's Board of Trustees should also be meeting this week to vote on raising the undergraduate tuition by 15 percent or more, according to a recent article by The OC Register.

"I'm upset about the fee increase," said Valley student Walter Lopez. "I don't make a lot of money and money is already tight, so it will put me in a bad situation."

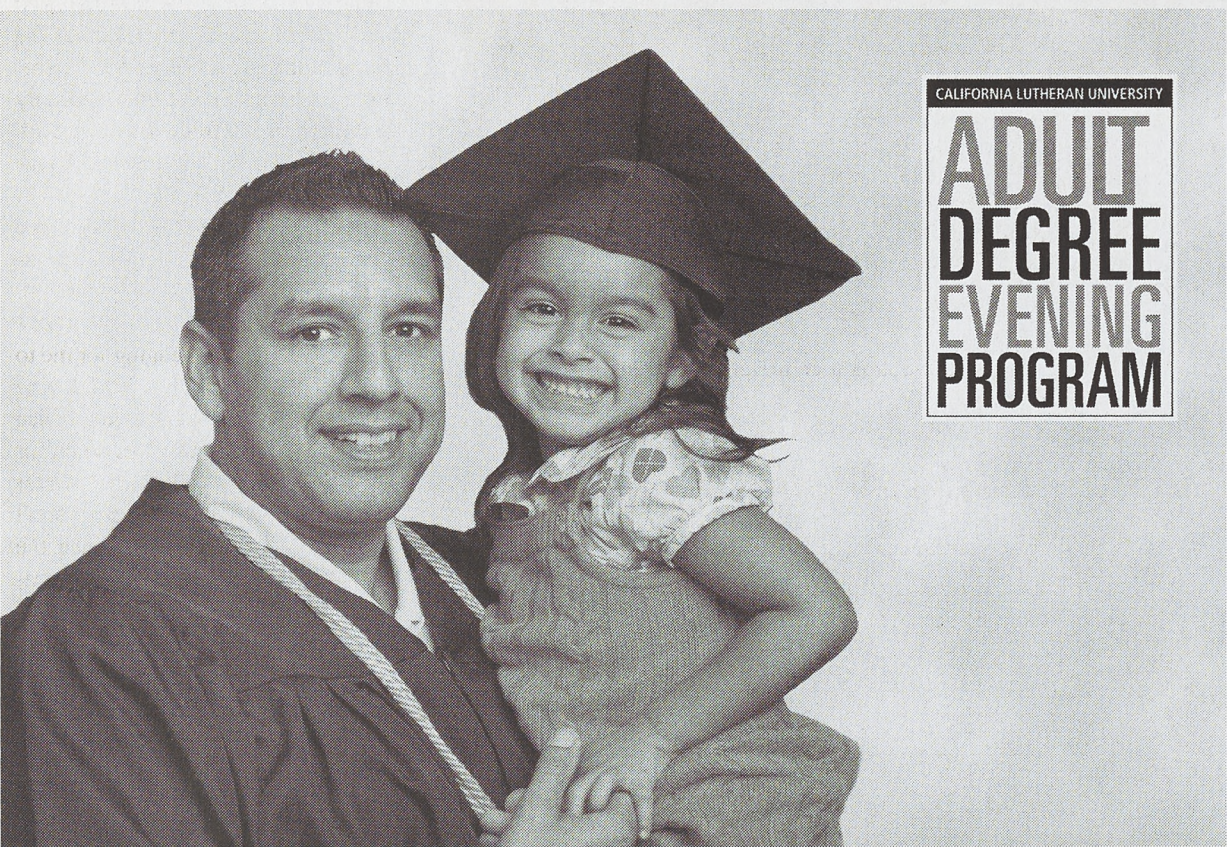
Due to budget cuts California community colleges have had to beg and borrow in the last year in order to keep college campuses running, but now the proposed 8 percent increase for UCs and 15 percent increase at CSUs may be stealing some students' futures.

E-mail Cristina Serrato at C.Serrato@lavalleystar.com. Send general comments to valleystar@lavalleystar.com

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YOUR WORLD, OUR WORLD: NEWS BRIEF

BARRY JAKOB
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

CALIFORNIA NEWS

LOS ANGELES - Anthony Washington, 36, of Santa Monica was found dead at the Los Angeles Country Club over the weekend after falling off a tree trying to gain access to the Playboy Mansion. Police say Washington's fatal fall was his second attempt in one day to trespass onto the Playboy resort. (LA Times)

RIVERSIDE - The manhunt has begun in search of a truck driver who has shot and killed California police officer Ryan Bonaminio -- an Iraq war veteran -- after a routine traffic stop on the 60 Freeway at around 9:45 p.m. on Sunday. Bonaminio was taken to Riverside Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. (LA Times)

NATIONAL NEWS

MINNEAPOLIS - A federal indictment has been handed down for 29 people who have been implicated in a sex trafficking ring in which Somali gangs allegedly forced girls under age 14 into prostitution in Minnesota, Tennessee, Ohio, and additional undisclosed locations. (Associated Press)

WINSTON SALEM, North Carolina - Researchers at the Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center have successfully utilized animal liver cells to grow a miniature functioning liver that can one day be used to replace human livers. The demand for transplant livers is much higher than the availability of the organ on a global scale. (BBC News)

VALLEY STAR CORRECTION

Correction for Issue 6:

In our most recent edition of the Valley Star there was an article by staff writer Carolina Leon entitled, "Fraudulent Farmers Markets." The article referenced an ongoing investigation on fraudulent farmers market vendors who falsely claim to have organic and pesticide free produce. Attached with the article is a photograph of La Funghi vendor, Dirk Hermann.

The Valley Star misrepresented Hermann and LA Funghi by attaching the photograph with the article. To our knowledge LA Funghi nor Hermann practice any type of misrepresentation in the selling of produce. Furthermore, the article has no relation to LA Funghi or Hermann.

EDITOR'S NOTE:
The views expressed on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Valley Star, its instructors, editors, staff or those of Los Angeles Valley College, its administrators, faculty, staff, or students.

OH ASU... PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU DO

The efforts of the ASU are being questioned amid recent impeachment talks.

LUCAS THOMPSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It is baffling that the Associated Student Union claims they have limited material to discuss during the weekly executive council meetings this semester. What's even more surprising is that talks regarding the impeachment of ASU President Hanna Matevosyan, by Vice President Kazooba Kawamara, were never discussed with her.

I suppose canceling meetings and claiming there are limited topics to discuss would fly on other occasions, except we are now facing possibly the most devastating budget cuts to Valley College in community college history. Seems like there could be a few things on the agenda with that small issue.

Tuesday there was nothing on the agenda geared toward helping students with financial aid, limited classes or school spirit. Instead, they discussed the proposed allocation of \$700 for an ASU winter retreat, because that is exactly what the ASU needs after all of their hard work, sacrifice, and attention to the needs of the student body.

"They should show themselves more, because I don't even know who's in it. I have never seen them," said Valley student Porscha Michael who, along with five other students interviewed for this article, was unable to explain anything about the ASU and what it stands for.

According to the description listed on LAVC.edu, the ASU Executive Council is the student organization that supports campus activities and serves as the official representative of the student body.

It would seem that incognito representation of a particular group might hinder the ability to meet the responsibilities and expectations held for any organization. But again this comes as no surprise; Matevosyan was voted in with zero experience.

A spring article of the Valley Star entitled, "ASU Election Allegations: Ethnicity vs. Quality," by Kelly Davis, quoted a Matevosyan supporter who posted on her Facebook, "Everyone who goes to LAVC you better vote for Hanna Matevosyan as ASU President. It's the only way Valley can become a better college...everyone else is like George Bush for USA."

Needless to say, Matevosyan now has a blocked Facebook page, and faces impeachment for her inability to serve the student body as president. Her length in office speaks to the control and competence the ASU displays to the student body.

The talks of impeachment were held in an ill-advised, "private meeting," last Tuesday, a meeting that was not on the agenda.

The incompetence of the ASU is clearly demonstrated by ASU Vice President Kazooba Kawamara's unauthorized decision to prohibit the Valley Star to attend the "private meeting" and ASU Adviser Elizabeth Ortiz's lack of awareness that any such meeting was taking place.

The ASU parades fliers, banners, and campaign propaganda in the faces of the student body yet evaporates when it's time to get down to the business of making Valley "a better college." I for one won't be expecting any major contributions or change from Matevosyan and the other ASU members... ASU, make sure to pack gloves and extra jackets, its cold in the mountains.

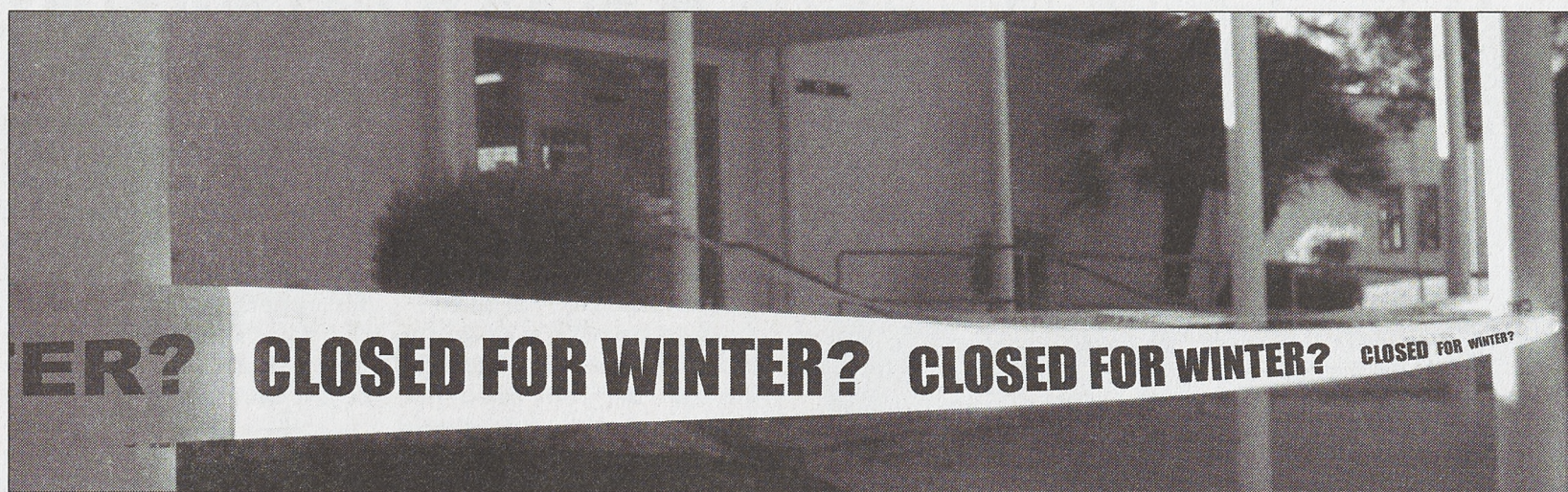


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN | VALLEY STAR

COMMON COURTESY IS NOT SO COMMON ANYMORE

Whether a student or a teacher, you're never too old to mind your manners.

STEPHANIE COLMAN
STAFF WRITER

It's the simple things. Allowing a fellow motorist to easily merge ahead on the freeway. Holding a door open. There was a time when these acts would be considered common courtesy. Today, it seems courtesy is anything but common.

What's behind this self-created culture of declining values? Pop Culture Expert Lola Ogunnaike recently told "Today Show's" Matt Lauer that television, namely reality shows, is largely responsible.

"We watch reality shows and

the people are rewarded for flipping tables, pulling hair and screaming at one another," Ogunnaike said. "What we're teaching our kids, and society, is that it's better to be outlandish and outrageous. So long as you're making headlines, that's all that matters."

Popular culture has seen its share of outlandish and outrageous. Simon Cowell built an empire out of making rudeness a ratings-grabbing art form. Lindsay Lohan, while being sentenced for repeatedly committing the same crime, shared her opinion of the judge via a four-letter insult inscribed on her manicure. Kanye West is still making headlines related to his thunder-stealing ambush of Taylor Swift's acceptance speech at the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards.

It's hard not to think decorum is dead. Or dying. Quickly.

Even on campus. One needn't look far to observe inconsiderate actions. While some are innocuous — an accidental failure to hold the door for the person about to exit behind you — others show a flagrant disrespect of fellow human beings, not to mention a general disregard for the campus community at-large.

Some students seem to feel it's okay to consistently waltz into class late or loudly answer phone calls in the middle of a lecture. Others have no problem littering on campus, be it with cigarette butts, trash that missed the can when they tossed it from afar, or even scraps of paper intentionally torn up and tossed to the ground like confetti on New Year's Eve. Really? What would your mothers say?

But it's not just some students who seem to occasionally forget their

manners. Recently, a student was seen smoking in a well-marked no smoking area. An instructor walked past, clearly annoyed, and began yelling at the student from approximately 20 feet away. A scene unfolded. The student was dismissive and continued puffing, the instructor continued ranting, a sheriff was called, and the rant ultimately ended with the exasperated instructor declaring, "what do I care? I'm retiring."

As an educational institution, Valley College should endeavor to strive toward not only high academic standards, but high moral standards, to be followed by all, in an effort to create educated, empathic individuals.

Or how 'bout we just try to remember the good ol' Golden Rule? Please? Thank you.

PROPOSITION 19 LOSES TO IGNORANCE

Californians once again let ignorance and stupidity sway the vote against their best interests.

JON SEELEY
NEWS EDITOR

The California Police Chiefs and Narcotics Officers associations have more in common with violent Mexican drug cartels and the California Beer & Beverage Distributors than you might think. They all opposed the passage of Proposition 19, which was defeated by 54 percent of voters.

For anyone living in a prescription drug haze -- literally half of America -- Prop 19 would have legalized the use and cultivation of marijuana for adults over 21. Additionally, it would have allowed local governments to sell and tax it in the same way as alcohol.

Proposition 19's failure is not surprising. Californians consistently prove themselves to be either ignorant or stupid. Perhaps this state-of-being is what causes people, in utter unsmiling seriousness, to believe "voting for the lesser of two evils" is a vote well cast.

After all, this is the land of voter-approved

Prop 8 and a population educated in the lowest-ranked, civics-course-free schools in the country. It's a voting public easily fooled by propaganda. Lazy-eyed "environmentally conscious" citizens, who voted 62 percent against Prop 23 because it was funded by Texas Oil, passed Prop 26, also funded by big oil.

Supporters of Prop 19 include retired police chiefs, judges, dozens of lawyers, a former U.S. Surgeon General, representatives in congress, and all major third parties.

According to the official voter information guide, "there is \$14 billion in marijuana sales every year in California, but our debt ridden state gets none of it." Drug cartels, business-savvy teenagers, and gangs receive most of the profits currently. The high school student selling it doesn't check for ID, nor does the drug dealer they bought it from.

"We've tried the prohibitionists' way, for over 40 years, and the only result has been more and more drugs flowing into our country and more and more profits going into the pockets of organized criminals," said Stephen Downing, former Los Angeles Deputy Chief of Police. "We have to move away from prohibition and toward controlling and regulating the market for marijuana, just as when we ended alcohol prohibition to put Al Capone's

smuggling buddies out of business."

The Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank, estimated \$1.6 billion in annual profits from the commercial sale of marijuana in cash-strapped California.

Voters must have forgotten that \$17 billion has been cut from California public education in the past two years. Commercial cultivation of pot would have created an estimated 100,000 jobs and Prop 19 could have generated billions from the currently illegal hemp industry.

It could have been a victory of rationality and civil liberty ending a 100-year-campaign, rooted in racism, against marijuana users. Alice Huffman, president of the California NAACP, called it a civil rights issue. She said despite a lower rate of usage among blacks, "blacks are arrested for marijuana possession at higher rates than whites, typically at double, triple, or even quadruple the rate."

Marijuana has been proven to be one of the safest substances on earth by modern science and traditional usage. Prohibition didn't work on alcohol and it isn't working on marijuana either. Above all, this is a civil rights issue involving control of one's body and mind. Let's hope Californians can pull their act together in 2012 when more marijuana legalization initiatives are expected to appear.

THIS IS THE NEW FACE OF BROADCAST JOURNALISM

In an era of per-minute news demands, the quality of news is questionable.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Days before the 2010 U.S. elections, MSNBC political commentator Keith Olbermann donated \$2,400 each to three Democratic candidates for Congress: Arizona democratic representative Raul Grijalva, Gabrielle Giffords and Kentucky senate candidate Jack Conway.

Fast forward to Nov. 5 and MSNBC President Phil Griffin suspending Olbermann indefinitely without pay for making a donation without approval from management.

Not only does it sound funny reading it, it feels weird writing it.

It's totally understandable if a news network would prohibit political donations by any employee in an attempt to promote fair and unbiased news reporting. But that isn't the case. All major news sources have cited MSNBC's policy as one requiring employees to "obtain approval" from management in advance before making political contributions.

Yes, had Olbermann just stated his intended actions before making a donation he probably would've avoided this whole thing, but that in turn would be side stepping a bigger issue.

In an age where political apathy is on the rise and social awareness in a downward spiral, it's equally appalling and laughable that any person must obtain approval from any type of management regarding political contributions of one's own volition and

more importantly, cash.

On Sunday, Politico reported that Olbermann could have avoided the suspension if he had agreed to apologize on air for donating to the democratic candidates. It's okay, re-read that sentence.

Regardless of Olbermann's status as political commentator, genius, or heretic, he's at the very least an American citizen who has to right to support whichever candidate he feels best represents him.

An even bigger issue is that news media outlets are no longer reporting the news, but are now making the news. MSNBC effectively stole an entire news cycle by reporting the suspension in the name of journalistic integrity only to have their policy dictate "approval."

Sadly the days of Cronkite are

over. This is the new face of broadcast journalism. We have ESPN becoming bedfellows with LeBron James in order to break a story first, Glenn Beck holding the "Restoring Honor Rally" as if he actually had the power to do so and Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert losing their satirist edge because too many people actually assume their personas as reality.

There is this journalistic idea about media convergence where people are able to get news in any format they desire. With that said, news is in demand almost on a per-minute basis. It's infuriating when so many vital news stories are available, Olbermann and MSNBC's gaffe is stealing headlines and space in the general public's ADD-riddled mind.

It appears the only line being blurred is what counts as news.

THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID... WINTER'S TOTAL RECALL

Students get a raw deal as the future of the winter semester hangs in limbo.

KELLY DAVIS



While the decision to cancel winter classes was being chewed on, digested, and passed up the chain of command like a nitroglycerin bomb, Valley College students were left in an anxiety-ridden state of limbo.

When I got the news that the bomb was about to be dropped, I was about to walk into a meeting with the UCLA rep to discuss my impending transfer. Prior to the news, I was confident that I was well prepared for the meeting. I had my list of questions ready and was sure that I would calmly be able to discuss what potential last-minute classes I would need to take to meet the upper division transfer requirements.

Any sense of serenity and emotional maturity went out the window as my head immediately went into disaster mode. I began to panic as I tried to process all the possible scenarios, realistic or not. I went from not being able to take the classes I need to transfer to having to drop out of school in a matter of seconds. The processing of this turmoil took its toll on me and I found myself hyperventilating.

As soon as I caught my breath, I quasi-sprinted to the student services building where I ambushed the completely unsuspecting transfer rep with a series of, "I, uh, and, yea, so, I uh, yea." I was stammering like an addict trying to talk their way into a free score. All prior preparation for this meeting was null as I had successfully thrown the baby out with the bath water.

I paused to offer up a shout out of silent gratitude that the woman I was meeting with was not the one who would determine my acceptance. The poor woman had a look of sheer terror on her face, as if she had suddenly found herself confronted with a wild, rabid animal. In her defense, I was frothing at the mouth.

Something she said brought me back to a semi-rational line of thinking. Slowly, I was able to process the fact that my life is not over. It is just going to be very challenging for me to accomplish all I need to by the time I hope to transfer. I left her office silently cursing the administration for even considering cutting the winter term, even though I know they don't really have another option since the "governor" has been treating education like a red-headed step child for the past three years.

It's great that canceling the winter term will cut \$750,000 from Valley's \$2 million deficit. And it makes sense to cut 145 course sections in the winter to save 200 in the spring. It's just that most students would much rather spend the winter getting on with their education plan as opposed to hibernating.

I have now resigned myself to the fact that I, along with thousands of other students, will more than likely spend the rest of my time at community colleges campus-jumping in a desperate effort to obtain the credits needed. Thanks Arnold, at least this time we know you won't be back.

E-mail Kelly Davis at k.davis@lavalleystar.com

VALLEY VIEW | WHAT DO YOU THINK THE RESPONSIBILITIES ARE OF THE ASU AND ARE THEY FULFILLING THEIR DUTIES?



"I think they are planning events and such. I don't really know, because I don't spend that much time on campus."
-MICHELLE DURAN
BUSINESS



"I guess to be student leaders of the school... I haven't seen anything wrong or bad, so I would have to say yes."
-MIKE BATOR
AUDIO ENGINEERING



"I don't know. Organize events or make the students come together. I don't really know much about it, to be quite honest."
-BERNETTE ZORILLA
NURSING



"They should be representing the student body. Honestly, I'm not in with the politics of the school so I don't know."
-BRANDON ANDERSON
PSYCHOLOGY



"I know that they have a lot of goals and the new president seems to be very ambitious, so I'm pretty satisfied so far."
-ASHLEY MILLER
ENGLISH

PHOTOS BY VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN | VALLEY STAR

GOT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

Letters to the editor can be sent to: editor@lavalleystar.com or submitted online at www.lavalleystar.com. Letters must be limited to 300 words and may be edited for content. Full name and contact information must be supplied in order for letters to be printed. Send by Thursday for the following week's issue.

LAVC Events

November 2 - December 16

LAVC Art Gallery "Cultural Windows"

Exhibition Now Open

The LAVC Art Gallery, and Arts Council will hold an exhibition entitled "Cultural Windows: the Art of Ruth Asawa, Ynez Johnston and Betye Saar." The exhibition features approximately 50 works including sculpture, painting, drawings, prints and ceramics by artists Ruth Asawa, Ynez Johnston and Betye Saar. The cultural references that appear in their work have been derived from personal heritage, ancestry, domestic and foreign cultures, or subcultures that reveal a rich cultural synthesis. The art gallery will be open Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. For more information about the exhibition, visit the LAVC Art Gallery Web page at <http://www.lavc.edu/arts/artgallery.html>.

FREE CONCERT WEDNESDAYS IN NOVEMBER

Wednesday, 10th
1 - 2 p.m.

THIRD WHEEL TRIO

Performing music of local composers:
Adrienne Geffen, clarinet;
Karin Kantenwein, flute;
Rich Ramberg, bassoon.
Music Recital Hall (M106)

Wednesday, 17th
1 - 2 p.m.

MUSIC FOR PIANO & TRUMPET

Performing music of Böhm, Ravel, de Falla and Vizzuti
Dr. Yih-Mei Hu, piano; Dr. Meghan Turner, trumpet.
Music Recital Hall (M106)

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NOVEMBER

Wednesday, 10th

UC Berkeley Rep 10 a.m. -
12:30 p.m.
UC Berkeley Admissions
Workshop 1 - 2 p.m.
Undecided Major/Career
Workshop 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, 15th

College Personal Statement
Workshop 5 - 6:30 p.m.
How to Transfer Workshop
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 16th

CSU Los Angeles Rep 10 a.m.
- 1 p.m.
UC Santa Cruz Rep 10 a.m. -
12 p.m.
College Personal Statement
Workshop 1 - 2:30 p.m.
How to Transfer Workshop
1 - 2 p.m.

All activities held in
the Career/Transfer
Center (Student Services
Building Annex) unless
otherwise indicated. For
further information contact
the Career/Transfer
Center at (818) 947-2646.

LIFE AFTER LIVING WITH LYMPHOMA

Sandy Mayo discusses her fight with cancer.

CRISTINA SERRATO
STAFF WRITER

Each New Year is a chance for fresh beginnings, new resolutions and reflections upon the past. For Valley College's Vice President of Academic Affairs Sandy Mayo, 2009 ushered in a battle with one of the deadliest, most unscrupulous foes: cancer.

On Jan. 2, 2009, Mayo was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Although cancer was out to kill her, she refused to go without a fight. She armed herself with a plethora of information and refused to give up her positive attitude or chance at living a normal life. The cancer slowed her down a bit, but Mayo continued to work from home as she received

12 rounds of chemotherapy.

"I am very fortunate that so few people get my cancer, but so many live," Mayo said, referring to Hodgkin's Lymphoma's 98 percent cure rate.

Mayo claimed a triumphant victory over cancer early December 2009. She lost some hair but gained a new outlook on life.

"I have a different appreciation for every day," said Mayo. She smiled and shrugged, "You can't go through an experience like this and not have a different appreciation for life, a sense of the tenuousness of it."

Mayo has been cancer free for nearly a year. However, she did have a scare in July when a CAT scan of her lungs found a 13 millimeter mass. Alarmed because of her history of Hodgkin's Lymphoma, doctors performed a series of scans before deciding that the mass was simply a lung

injury, benign and not an issue.

"I decided, personally, that I really didn't learn what I needed to from the first event," laughed Mayo. "So this is the Higher Power trying to teach me. It scared me and I'm hoping I got 'it' this time," she added.

Mayo will be doing a follow-up check with her doctor in December. After that visit, if still cancer free, the chemotherapy port-a-cath she has been wearing for the last year will be removed. The port is a semi-permanent I.V. line placed under the skin on the chest. The line reaches directly into the bloodstream to the heart, allowing chemotherapy medicine to be intravenously admitted into her body. She attributes the port to saving her life and making chemotherapy bearable.

When asked what advice she could give to others dealing with their own battle against cancer, Mayo

replied, "Make sure you get as much info as you can and get a port, chemo makes a mess of your hands."

"Be assertive. Ask. Study. Talk to people who have dealt with it before you. Ask for assistance and find mentor programs," she added.

Mayo is considering joining a mentor program, but her focus was on the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's "Light the Night" walk. During her 11-month battle with Hodgkin's Lymphoma she campaigned, fund-raised, and planned for this year's walk.

Mayo, along with her husband and several of Valley's staff, participated in the event on Nov. 6 in Woodland Hills and 100 percent of the proceeds raised by Team Valley College will be applied to blood cancer research and patient services. The funds earned by Mayo and the entire Valley team could do more

than pay for research, it could save lives.

For more information on the "Light the Night" walk please go to www.lightthenight.org and to find out more about cancer, www.cancer.gov.



VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN, PHOTOEDITOR | VALLEY STAR
SURVIVOR - Sandy Mayo is back at work after a long battle with cancer.

LOOKING THROUGH CULTURAL WINDOWS

Valley College's art gallery exhibits works by three culturally diverse artists.

DAVID MOTTE
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

As the sun came down on the evening of Nov. 2, the Valley College Art Gallery hosted the opening of "Cultural Windows," an exhibition of sculptures, paintings, drawings, and prints by three women who employ cultural influences in different ways.

Approximately 50 works of art by Ruth Asawa, Ynez Johnston and Betty Saar are in display in the gallery, including lithographs, collages on handkerchiefs, drawings on paper, looped wire sculptures, acrylics on canvas, and mixed media assemblages. All three women are of the same generation, born in the 1920s, and are of different cultural backgrounds. The concept that unites these women is the fact that each one provides a glimpse of their heritages in their work, as well as incorporating other cultural artistic concepts.

Of the three artists showcased, only Ynez Johnston was able to attend. Ruth Asawa was unfortunately ill and Betye Saar was away on travel.

"I enjoyed the show. It was very nice to have an opportunity to meet Ynez Johnston, I really liked her work," said Valley's Vice President of Academic Affairs Sandy Mayo, who was present at the reception. "We are very fortunate to have the support of our community and their willingness to share such exquisite items from their private collections at the Valley College Gallery."

After the reception, Karin Higa, the Japanese-American National Museum adjunct senior curator of art gave a lecture about the artists and their works, including a brief biography of each and synopses of the displayed art. The speech was followed by a discussion panel consisting of Higa, Valley College Art Gallery Manager and Assistant Professor of Art Phung Huynh, and art professors Eugenia Sumnik-Levins and Carol Bishop speaking about their experiences as culturally diverse women in the art field.

"The idea of this exhibition

was that these artists could become windows of a sort, revealing to us how their art explores different cultural and artistic influences," explained Higa. "Also, how their unique backgrounds can inform and impact their art."

"Cultural Windows" can be experienced Nov. 3 through Dec. 16 in the Valley College Art Gallery which is located in the art building. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., as well as 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and is free to the public. For general art gallery information, contact 818-778-5536.

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TWO CENTS FROM SPENCE SCREAMING FOR VENGEANCE

The late night talk show wars can now begin in earnest now that the once and future king has returned.

J.P. SPENCE

There was a certain transcendence through the television screen as Conan O'Brien walked on stage for the first time in 10 months after his bitter divorce from NBC.

The feeling was gratitude. O'Brien's new TV show "Conan" premiered on TBS Monday, and was more similar to the host's glory days hosting "Late Night" than his tenure with "The Tonight Show."

The intro was fantastic in that O'Brien was finally given the lime-light to share his frustrations with "The Tonight Show" experience. Similar to "The Godfather," the opening vignette depicted O'Brien's departure from NBC to TBS with the message that while his new station is not nearly as lucrative, it's seemingly more creative.

The monologue was vintage Coco. After a year of waiting, O'Brien was more comfortable in his own shoes doing his patented string dance, cat pounce, and off screen antics rather than trying to replicate Jay Leno or Johnny Carson before him.

The guest list was obviously fitting of a talk show premiere, but it wasn't necessarily who the guests were but rather the type of audience that O'Brien attracts. The conversations with Seth Rogen and Lea Michele displayed Conan as his old self, a supremely confident interviewer who is equally witty and self-deprecating.

Jack White and O'Brien closed the premiere episode with a song that the two have been working

on for the host's debut album (produced by White) to be released later this year.

While the first episode attracted 4.2 million viewers, that audience is expected to widen as the show gains more traction.

The guest list for future episodes includes Tom Hanks, Julie Bowen, Jon Hamm and Soundgarden. Even though these are A-List celebrities in their own right, they aren't the type of celebs one would see on Leno or Letterman. This is a direct reflection of O'Brien's audience, which is 80 percent in the 18-49 age demographic.

Granted, "Conan" is named after the host, but the show immediately harkens back to "Late Night" roots and even though O'Brien's departure from "The Tonight Show" was ugly to watch and one of the hardest things for the host to endure, it truly was for the better. It's refreshing to see O'Brien be himself and not have to worry about no longer having to censor himself or have to live up to the hype of such an over-rated franchise.

Just after one episode, Conan O'Brien looks far better as an indie icon rather than a corporate shill. Long live the king.

E-mail J.P. Spence at managing@lavalleystar.com
Send general comments to valleystar@lavalleystar.com



COURTESY OF TBS

A NIGHT LIT BY HOPE

Hundreds gathered in Woodland Hills, walking for a cancer cure.

CRISTINA SERRATO
STAFF WRITER

With live music floating in the air, cheery faces in the crowd and children's laughter rising gleefully through the din, Warner Center Park looked joyful and celebratory Saturday. However, there remained a somber sense of sadness just below the laughter and smiles. This event was the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's annual Light the Night Walk, a walk and fundraiser to help find a cure to end blood cancers.

"This is a fabulous turnout," said Laura Runsten, senior campaign manager for the greater Los Angeles chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. "It's a truly moving and inspirational event for everyone to come together, supporters, survivors and people that have lost loved ones in a common mission, the mission to find a cure for blood cancers."

Although the Light the Night Walk is held in honor of those who lost their battle with cancer, the event was still fun for the children that attended. There was face painting, a bounce house, balloon animals, coloring, goody bags and a prize wheel sponsored by Wells Fargo. Among the other event sponsors were Amgen Corporation, Burlington Coat Factory and the local Olive Garden, which brought food for some of the participants.

"This event helps to save lives," said Shayna Summers who wore a light pink shirt with the face of a little girl on it. She turned so the back of the shirt could be read, and "In Loving Memory of Mia" was inscribed on the back. Mia was only four years old when she died from leukemia. "She was a family friend's daughter, we walk for her, but also for my dad. He is in remission from leukemia right now. This event is as personal as it gets."

It infects the young and old alike, which is how the students of Chaminade Middle School became involved in Light the Night. One of their very own, Kelsey Burke, was diagnosed with leukemia five years ago. Team "Kelsey Burke" consists of over 700 sixth, seventh and eighth grade students, teachers and parents who have banded together as a Chaminade family to participate in Light the Night and help find a cure.

"Our record was \$81,000 raised a few years ago, I'm not sure how much we have raised this year because we're still getting donations," said Chaminade eighth grader Savannah Jones. "Kelsey's leukemia hurt us a Chaminade family, but before then I never heard of Light the Night. People need to be made aware of it, it needs to get put on TV and in the news."

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Light the Night walk is held in approximately 230 communities throughout the US and Canada. One hundred percent of the proceeds of the event go toward

cancer research and trials in order to find a cure as well to help sponsor patients that could not otherwise pay for care. In 2009 over 100 clinical research trials were performed in order to develop new treatments and cures to help patients live longer and hopefully better lives, and cures that will help patients live better, longer lives.

Valley College's Vice President of Academic Affairs, Sandy Mayo, is a lymphoma survivor and has been cancer free for almost a year. Accompanied by her husband Wade and her two large golden retrievers, she was enthusiastic for the impending walk.

"It's exciting to see all the people here to support the fight against blood cancers," said Mayo.

Mayo walked alongside her husband and dogs, proudly carrying a gold balloon. The gold balloons were to remember those who had succumb to cancer, the white balloons were for those who survived and the red balloons were for the supporters. For every gold balloon there were three white balloons, for every white balloon there were five red and every step the massive crowd took was a step closer to a cure. The Light the Night event held Saturday Nov. 6 in Woodland Hills raised more than \$935,000.

For more information on how to participate in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Light the Night Walk or to support Team L.A. Valley College visit <http://pages.lightthenight.org/los/WarnerPk10/TeamLAValleyCollege>.



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.

ON THE ROAD ONCE MORE

Director Todd Phillips takes the same trip, albeit with different passengers in the funny, but not so funny Due Date

J.P. SPENCE
MANAGING EDITOR

Everyone has that one friend who recycles the same funny story over and over but changes the names and dates enough to keep the story fresh. Not that it's a bad thing but writer/director Todd Phillips is that guy in Hollywood. For those expecting a little "Old School" combined with "The Hangover," there is a little of both but not enough of either in "Due Date."

So here's the premise, again. You take the straight man (previously Luke Wilson and Justin Bartha), in this case it's Robert Downey Jr. Combine him with the crazy guy (previously Will Ferrell and Bradley Cooper), Zach Galifianakis, put both of them in an extenuating circumstance and watch the magic happen.

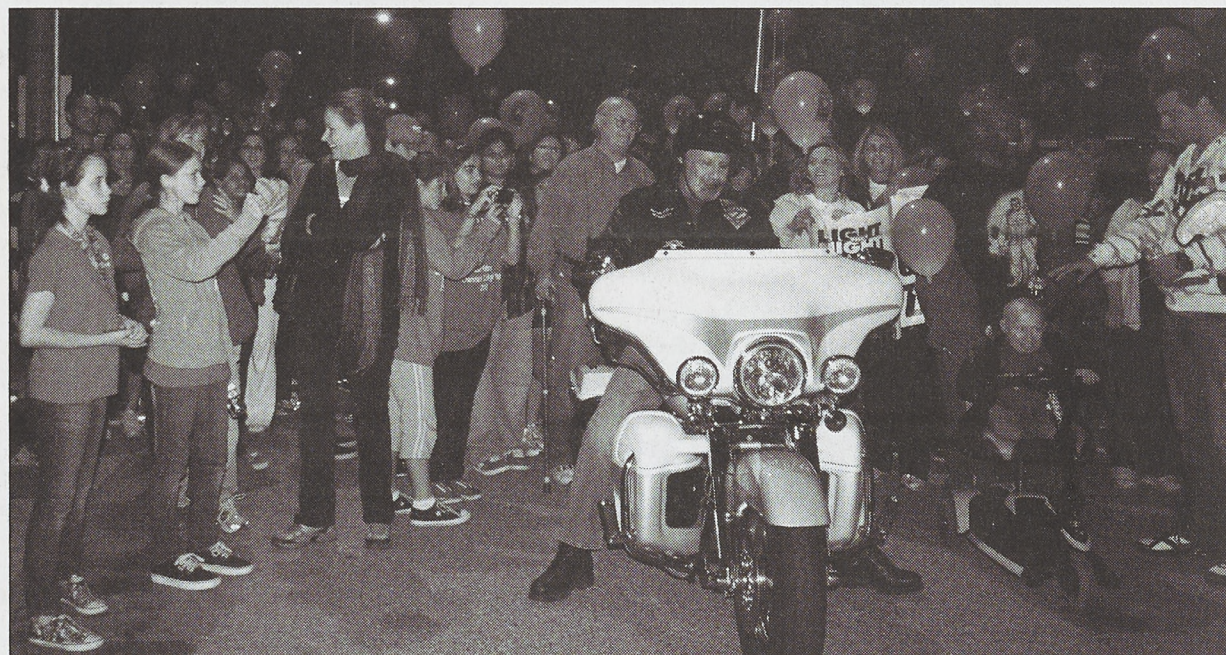
Downey Jr. plays Peter Highman, a high-strung architect who desperately wants to make it back to Los Angeles in time for the birth of his child. Galifianakis is Ethan Tremblay, an aspiring actor whose mission to make it to

Hollywood lands the duo in a collision course for the West Coast that heavily borrows from standard road comedies and odd couple films. The content is derivative in one form or another and while the film is adequate and suffices for the price of admission, "Due Date" was funnier when it was "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles."

Downey Jr. is adequate at best. His best moments are when his character is pushed to the brink of sanity by Galifianakis. It's not Downey's fault, nor is it bad acting; the character development in the script is razor thin.

Galifianakis, who is described by Phillips as his muse, is also underserved. In "The Hangover," Galifianakis was able to delve deep into awkward territory while maintaining an innocent charm. In "Due Date" as Ethan Tremblay, Galifianakis is one dimensional too, being able to only shift from annoying to obnoxious.

For all the goodwill that Phillips has built with "The Hangover" will be lost with "Due Date." Phillips has this ability to tell the same story over yet change the premise that makes the film interesting. This film just borrows so heavily from the director's own catalog other classic genre films that the audience feels that they've seen the film on the first take. Proceed with caution.



SAMSON UBATI/VALLEY STAR

WALK FOR A CURE - Light The Night participants, including Verne Troyer (right), helped raise \$900,000 dollars to find a cure for blood related diseases.

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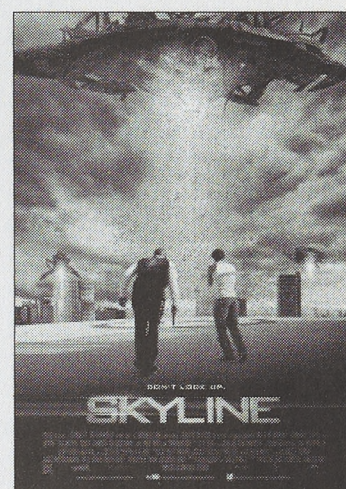
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THE MOVIES

OPENING THIS WEEKEND



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ERIC BALFOUR
SCOTTIE THOMPSON
BRITTANY DANIEL

TOP 5 BOX OFFICE:

- MEGAMIND: \$47.6M+
- DUE DATE: \$33.5M+
- FOR COLORED GIRLS: \$20.1M+
- RED: \$8.86M+
- SAW 3D: \$6.25M+

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DVD



GROWN UPS

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- SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD
- CHARLIE ST. CLOUD
- "DOCTOR WHO": SEASON 5
- RAMONA AND BEEZUS

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MINI MANSIONS

ALSO:

- NEIL DIAMOND - DREAMS
- ELVIS CASTELLO - NATIONAL RANSOM
- N.E.R.D - NOTHING
- HUEY LEWIS AND THE NEWS - SOULSVILLE

CONCERTS & THEATRE



- A PERFECT CIRCLE: NOV. 10 AVALON
- JOHN MAYALL: NOV. 11 COACH HOUSE - CAPISTRANO
- JIMMIE VAUGHN: NOV. 12 THE CANYON
- PEPPER: NOV. 13 CLUB NOKIA
- OZOMATI: NOV. 13 FOX PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
- MISFITS: NOV. 14 GALAXY THEATRE
- GWAR: NOV. 16 HOUSE OF BLUES SUNSET STRIP

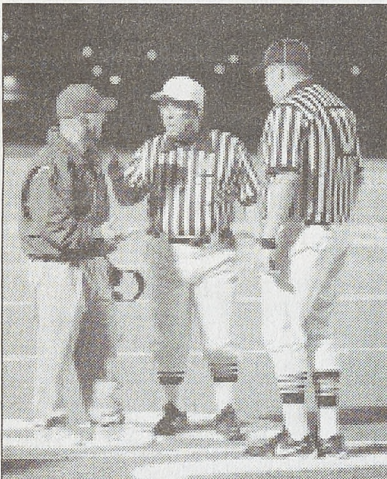
MONARCHS MISFIRE IN SHOOTOUT AGAINST L.A. SOUTHWEST



EFFORT - Valley College running back Germi Morrison breaking tackles in Saturday night's 63-56 loss against the L.A. Southwest Cougars. Morrison combined for four-touchdowns and 161 rushing yards in the fast-paced game. SCOTT MITCHELL, SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The Monarchs fell short in an offensive showcase against L.A. Southwest College Saturday night.

LUCAS THOMPSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



SCOTT MITCHELL, SPECIAL TO THE STAR

It was over six hundred yards of total offense that kept the Monarchs in the game against L.A. Southwest College Saturday night, but it was inches that gave them the loss.

Tied at 56 points, the Monarchs had a fourth and goal on the one-yard line with 52 seconds remaining in regulation. The anticipation filled Cougar Stadium with two completely different levels of energy: a deflated fan base awaiting defeat behind the L.A. Southwest sideline, and an anxious audience awaiting the sign of a touchdown that would have most likely given Valley College the victory and a 5-0 conference record.

What followed suppressed any momentum the Monarchs had gained throughout the game. A fumble by Morey Croson on the one-yard line left an awestricken offensive unit pleading with referees that the ball had crossed the plain prior to the ball coming loose. Unable to regain confidence, the Valley offense failed to follow up on a Cougar score in overtime, which gave L.A.

Southwest the 63-56 victory.

"We weren't focusing right (and) weren't playing as a team," Valley cornerback Chris Martinez said about the defensive unit. "I don't know where our focus was at, they came out here (and) took this team as a joke and we got smashed in the mouth."

Martinez combined for three solo tackles and two of the three Monarch interceptions throughout the game. The struggling Valley defense allowed 494 yards of total offense, 267 of which were rushing yards.

The Monarchs jumped to an early lead in the first quarter, leading 21-13. Valley maintained control of the game throughout the majority of possession, but the Cougar offense was able to stay within range throughout the game.

"It wasn't a typical game for us," said Valley Head Coach Jim Fenwick. "I don't

think we've showed that side of our defense in a long time (and) that part is frustrating. You think you're going to get better throughout the year."

The Monarch offensive unit outscored the Cougars 56-42 in the first three quarters; however, a scoreless fourth quarter for the Monarchs combined with two touchdowns from L.A. Southwest allowed the Cougars to tie the game.

"We thought the game was over when we were on the one-yard line," Monarch wide receiver Travion Odom said. "We just got too big headed over the week, the game should have never been that close ... we were just looking forward to Pierce."

Odom combined for 71 yards on the night and one touchdown. The sophomore receiver has been a staple of the Valley offense all season and will play a huge fac-

tor this weekend in the game against Pierce College.

Although quarterback Dan Owen and the Valley receiving core combined for 275 yards on the night, running back Germi Morrison allowed the Monarchs to keep up with the speed and quickness of L.A. Southwest. The sophomore managed four touchdowns on 161 rushing yards throughout the game. The Monarchs will look to hand off to No. 3 this weekend in order to help open up the passing game.

Homecoming kickoff is slated for 6 p.m. Saturday night against Pierce College. With playoffs just around the corner this will undoubtedly be the Monarchs most important game of the season.

"The bottom line is we are in the exact same position," Fenwick said. "We just have to try and bounce back."

MONARCH SCHEDULES

Football:
Saturday, Nov. 13
v.s. Pierce College
* Homecoming

Cross Country:
Friday/Saturday, Nov. 19-20
State Finals
@ Woodward Park 10 a.m.

Men's Water Polo
Friday/Saturday, Nov. 12-13
So Cal Regionals
@ Citrus TBA
Friday/Saturday, Nov. 19-20
State Championship
TBA

Women's Water Polo
Friday/Saturday, Nov. 12-13
So Cal Regional Championship
@ Golden West TBA
Friday/Saturday, Nov. 19-20
California Community College
State Championship
TBA

Soccer
Thursday, Nov. 11
@ Citrus 3 p.m.

Men's Basketball
Thursday-Saturday,
Nov. 11-13
Ventura "We Play Hard
Tournament"

GLENDALE KEEPS MONARCHS SCORLESS

Glendale Community College defeated the Lady Monarchs with a final score of 3-0

IVAN ZUNIGA
ONLINE EDITOR

Failing to take advantage of opportunities last Friday, the Lady Monarchs soccer team was scoreless in its 3-0 loss to Glendale Community College.

Desperately trying to score goals throughout the game, Valley College had a couple close connections which would have given them a chance to catch up to their opponents, but Glendale's tight defense stopped all Monarch attempts.

"First half was a lot better, we were hustling more and we started marking off players in the second half," Monarch goalie Stephanie Ortega said. "As a team overall I think we came out probably a lot better on Tuesday's game but we still came out pretty tough."

Thirty minutes into the game Glendale made the first goal against Valley as they reached half time with a 1-0 lead. Glendale then successfully penetrated gaps in the Monarch defense and controlled possession the majority of the game.

"They don't give up and they played for a good amount of time and it reflects a whole year for us," said Glendale Head Coach Jorge Mena. "I thought they played well, we just couldn't play a lot of chances against them."

Ortega made a consistent effort in blocking a lot of passes from Glendale that were close to becoming goals. She took control over the ball and attempting to prevent Glendale from getting close enough to make a goal. Monarch players Adrianna Blanco and Rosie Garcia had



RICARDO VARELA, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER | VALLEY STAR

BATTLE - Valley struggled to maintain possession in last week's game against Glendale.

several close attempts near the goal but were unable to convert the attempts into points.

Both teams began to play more aggressively against each other in the

second half. A couple players from Valley made repetitive mistakes on handling connections. As the frustration from Monarch Head Coach Shane Watkins and Valley supporters became obvious

A LOOK BACK AT OCTOBER

DATE:	AGAINST:	SCORE:
OCT. 1	PIERCE	8-0 L
OCT. 4	MISSION	3-0 W
OCT. 5	CANYONS	8-0 L
OCT. 8	BAKERSFIELD	5-0 L
OCT. 12	GLENDALE	10-0 L
OCT. 15	SANTA MONICA	5-0 L
OCT. 19	CITRUS	6-1 L
OCT. 22	MISSION	0-0 (TIE)
OCT. 26	PIERCE	9-0 L
OCT. 29	CANYONS	5-0 L

the team had no other option but to keep fighting until the end of the match.

"It was a hard-to-watch loss, this game, and to see a lot of repeated mistakes is frustrating," Watkins said. "I'm hoping to change that next year so we come out stronger."

Nearing the end of the season the team still has some hope for the last couple of matches. Since the draw against Mission College, the Monarchs have lost four games. The team is left with a season record of 2-13-1. The Monarchs play their final game of the season at Citrus College Thursday

COACHES GET ATHLETES TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Past Valley athletes reflect on their time spent preparing for the next level.

JOSHUA LAWRENCE & COURTNEY BASSLER
STAFF WRITERS

From football, track and field, and everything in between, many Valley College athletes are looking to the next level of their athletic careers by gaining scholarships to four-year universities.

Two of the 17 athletes who received scholarships to four-year universities last year are Valley football players Eric Jusko, who played center, and Bret Visciglia, who played quarterback. Jusko received his scholarship from Fort Hayes State University in Kansas, a Division II school and Visciglia earned his from Chapman University in California, a Division III school. In addition, standout Monarch basketball shooting guard Andrey Orlov received a partial athletic and academic scholarship to Warner Pacific College, a Division II school.

Jusko had a little speed bump in his transition when he was encouraged by his new coaches in Kansas to play the position of tight end due to his abilities and build.

"At Valley I played center on the offensive line and transitioning to tight end was difficult," Jusko said. "But, now I am comfortable at the position and in the end agree with my coaches' decision."

All three men have kept their scholarships and are thankful for their time at Valley. They credit their head coaches for part of the successes the three have managed.

"[Coach Fenwick's] belief in me made me pursue a dream I have had since I was a kid, playing college football," said Jusko.

While the coaching staffs are vital, the counseling process and preparation of an academic plan is equally important, according to both Valley Head Football Coach Jim Fenwick and Visciglia.

"The priority starts with their academic preparation," said Fenwick. "We encourage them to get the proper counseling and that they get their admissions and registration in on time."

Visciglia wanted to make it known who his counselor was and stated, "Reggie Reed was a great counselor and is willing to help anyone who needs guidance. I would highly recommend anyone who wants to transfer to meet with him and lay out a plan."

According to Jusko, the recruitment process is a whirlwind of emotions — it is exciting, stressful, and complicated. It also comes with some enticing perks and the convenience of getting to know one's future coach on a personal level.

"Don't get caught up in the glam of the program, what division they are in, or what their uniforms look like," Jusko said. "Make a decision that you can live with and go to a place that feels most comfortable for you."

Orlov suggests students take matters into their own hands during the recruitment process.

"I cannot stress this part enough," said Orlov. "I would encourage athletes to do their own recruiting. Start looking at the list of schools that interest you and e-mail the coaches and build bridges that way. Don't leave the recruiting up to your coach staff."

The transition to a four-year school can be just as difficult as the recruitment process itself.

"[It's] like jumping out of a moving car," said Visciglia. "You really don't know anyone and you have to get into the flow academically."



EXPERIENCE - Valley College football Defensive Coordinator Leon Criner observes the start of practice. Criner returned to Valley in 2004 as assistant coach.

FROM PLAYER TO COACH, PIGSKIN TRANSCENDS THE DECADES

More than 50 years of football have come full circle.

CRISTINA SERRATO
STAFF WRITER

When Valley College won the Alfalfa Bowl in 1956 Leon Criner was a Monarch quarterback; in 2004 he returned to Valley as an assistant head coach and defensive coordinator. Few can boast that they have more football experience than 72-year-old Leon Criner.

"I decided to come full circle and return to Valley," said Criner. "Coach (Jimmy) Sims was here so I

was familiar with the coaches."

Criner graduated from Canoga Park High School in 1956 as both an All-American and the Los Angeles City Co-Player of the Year. He joined Valley as a quarterback immediately after graduation, and in 1957 he moved north to serve as a defensive back and tailback for Oregon State University. However, Criner had more than a talent for football; he had a knack for baseball as well. In 1961 he joined the newly founded New York Mets. He played for the Mets for a year before the Army drafted him, in which he served two years. In 1964, he returned to Los Angeles and began coaching.

"(Coach Criner) is very experienced and professional. He has a wealth of information and he's very professional with his defense," said Valley Athletic Trainer Dennis Mestas. "He has a very positive personality every time I see him."

Before Criner came back to Valley he coached at several different high schools and colleges, including California Polytechnic University, Allen Hancock University and most recently College of the Canyons. However, COC just was not home for the hardworking coach. A San Fernando Valley native, Criner happily returned to Valley where he continued to hone his coaching skills.

"Coaching is an art to him and he takes a lot of pride in what he does. That's probably why he is so successful," said Wide Receiver Coach Alex Rosenblum. "He always wins, everywhere he goes, he wins."

In a July 2009 Amazins.com article Criner professed, "I believe the art of coaching is how I present the subject matter and carry myself as a coach ... On the other hand, the science of coaching is what I teach."

When Criner was asked what he would like players to learn from him he replied, "The value of a good work ethic and if they stick to their goals, they can accomplish their goals."

COACH URGES STUDENTS TO RUN DEFENSIVELY

Death of Notre Dame High School athlete renews coach and team's decision to avoid road running.

STEPHANIE COLMAN
STAFF WRITER

Following the recent death of Notre Dame High School cross country runner, Conor Lynch, 16, the Valley College cross country team is even more supportive of Head Coach François Wolman's requirement that conditioning runs take place in parks or on trails.

Tragedy has a way of making an impact.

"The kids are taking the initiative now," said Wolman. "They're saying, 'Coach, we're not going to run on the streets.'" He noted his policy has always been to avoid street running whenever possible.

"At Valley, we have a luxury," Wolman explained. "Most of the kids drive, so we rarely have to run on the street. Ninety-five percent of our runs are done on trails or in parks where there is no traffic."

When the team occasionally runs from campus to nearby North Hollywood Park, runners are accompanied by an assistant coach as a safety precaution.

For Valley students unable to access local trails for recreational running, Wolman says awareness is the key to staying safe while running street-side.

"The most important thing is to be aware of your surround-

ings," he said, explaining that the use of iPods and similar devices can make it harder for runners to hear oncoming cars. "The other important key point is don't jay-run or try to make lights. Stretch or jog in place instead."

The day Lynch was killed, NBCLA.com reported that, according to LAPD Officer Sara Faden, he was crossing mid-block near the intersection of Woodman Avenue and Addison Street at the time of the fatal incident.

Tragically, fatal car versus pedestrian accidents are not uncommon. The LAPD Valley

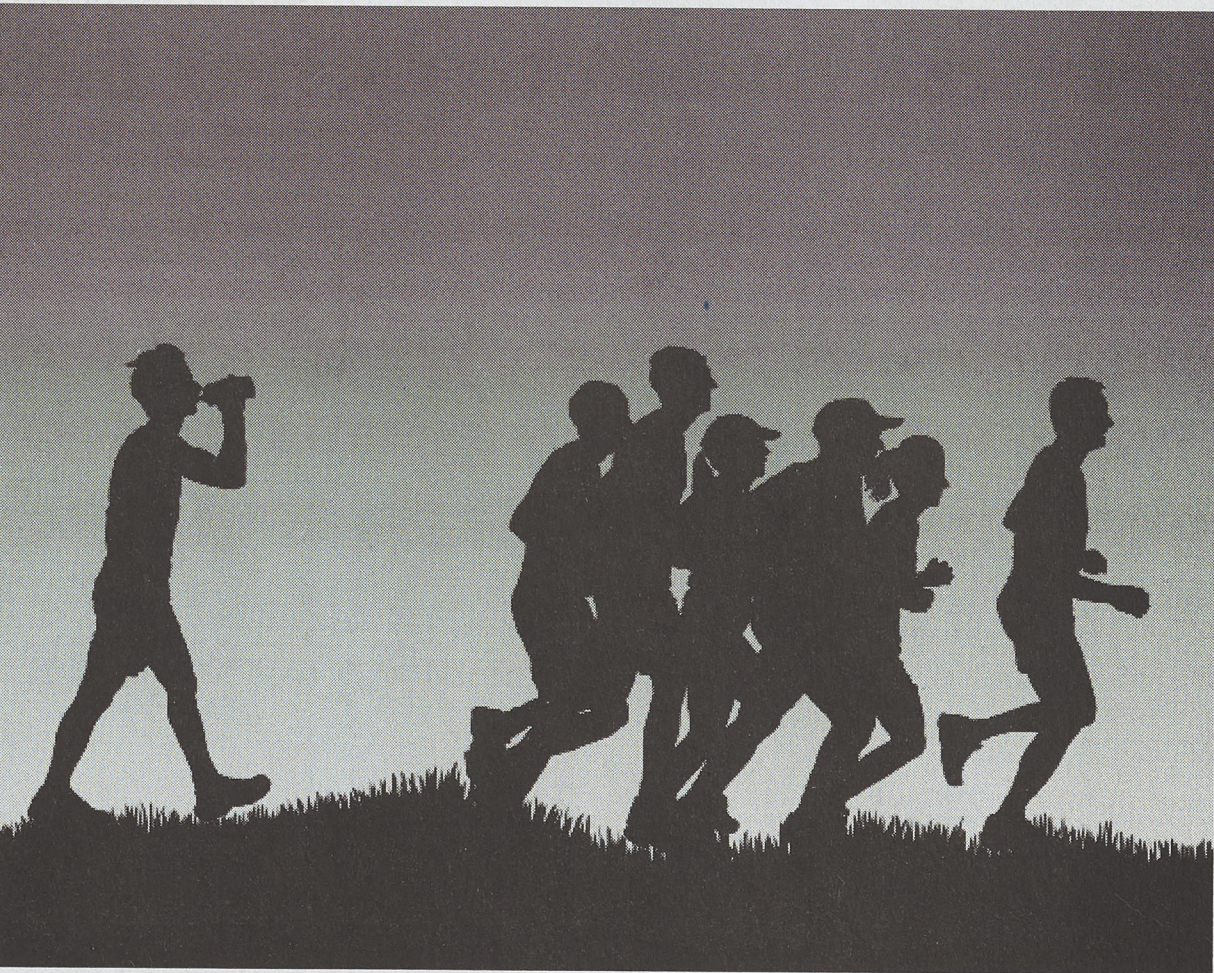
Traffic Division reported a total of 768 fatalities in 2007, the last year for which data has been compiled.

With the recent time change, many runners will be pounding the pavement after dark. Jill Geer, spokesperson for USA Track & Field, the national governing body for track and field, long-distance running, and race walking in the United States, recommends that runners wear reflective clothing designed to increase visibility. She also echoes Wolman's concern regarding the use of iPods, stating that

her organization once went so far as to ban the devices from organized events, but has since lifted the ban in favor of a strong recommendation to avoid the use of headphones when interacting with traffic.

"Running is generally a safe activity," said Geer. "Running in urban areas is more hazardous, especially when near cars. Drivers generally feel the road is for them."

"You just have to be aware," Wolman said. "This really hits close to home."



ANALYZE THIS

SUCCESS DOESN'T EQUAL LEADERSHIP

The recent firing of Cowboys Head Coach Wade Phillips exposed what a coach should never be ... soft.

LUCAS THOMPSON



Jerry Jones did not fire Dallas Cowboys Head Coach Wade Phillips Monday because he didn't win. He did it because of how Phillips held himself.

Throughout his career in Dallas, Phillips combined for an overall record of 35-23. He led the team to two NFC East titles and gave the struggling organization its first playoff victory in 10 years. Needless to say, there's been worse.

But here's the difference. Even as Jones did what he promised he wouldn't do in firing Phillips before the season was over, Phillips was nice.

"I am disappointed in the results of this season to this point, but I am also very proud of what our team and our players accomplished in the previous three years," Phillips said.

Not to say Phillips had any real rebuttal to Jones and his decision to give him the pink slip, but the way Phillips cowered in press conferences and displayed constant facial expressions of disappointment on the sidelines undoubtedly led to a talented team going 1-7 in the first eight games of regular season.

If you look like the Michelin Man and act like one, it will, without a doubt, be difficult to command attention of professional athletes, especially in the NFL. Look at those of late who have had success around the league. Take Rex Ryan for instance: this guy throws a couple eggs on a burger in the morning and calls it breakfast, he curses more than his entire offensive line and predicts his team as the next super bowl champions before the season even starts ... and he's intimidating. He talks at you when he speaks and has no problem doing so. Think his high-strung personality and take-no-crap philosophy had something to do with taking the Jets, with a rookie quarterback, to the AFC Championship game last season?

You can only ride on a team's talent for so long. And this season the Dallas Cowboys have proved it.

"An in-season coaching change is not something I've done before, something I was reluctant to do as recently as last week," Jones said. "But I think what's best for the organization and the fans is a coaching change."

And right you are Jones, too bad it took you another season of steadily declining control of your football team to the hands of a quarterback, who looks like a seventh grader, and an unauthoritative head coach who looks down more than up, to do so. Look at coaches like Mike Tomlin, John Harbaugh and Sean Peyton. Watch how they hold themselves and conduct their teams, then look at their success.

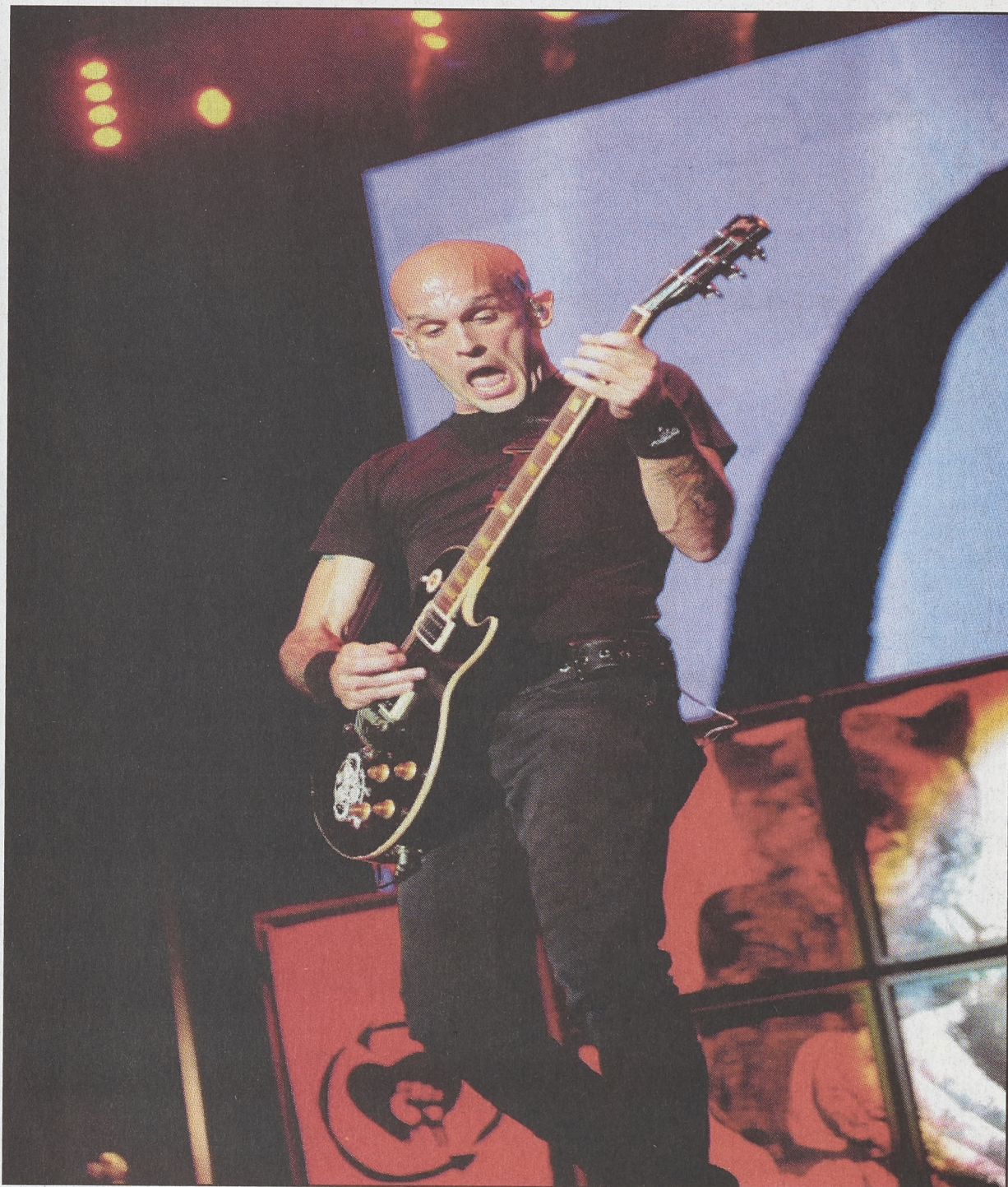
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Send general comments to valleystar@lavalleystar.com

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EVERYBODY ON YOUR FEET - Seville, lead guitar player for Kinda Major on the Monster Stage Saturday.



PASSION PLAY - Zach Blair, lead guitar player for the band Rise Against on the Main Stage Sunday.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY:
SCOTT MITCHELL, SPECIAL TO THE STAR

More than 50,000 music fans gathered at the Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif. for EPICENTER TWENTY TEN Sept. 25 and 26. Marking the festival's second outing, this year's line-up included performances from the top rock, hip-hop and punk artists, with the festival fittingly concluding with a set from Blink-182 in their 2010 North American appearance.

The all-star line-up featured a combination of talent unseen at any other event including headlining performances from Eminem and KISS. Bush performed in their first California show in nine years and Rise Against performed their only 2010 California appearance.

EPICENTER TWENTY TEN also marked the first Southern California show in a decade for the recently reunited House of Pain, who are also celebrating their 20th anniversary. DMX, Papa Roach, Big Boi, 30 Seconds To Mars, Bush, Bad Religion, Rise Against, La Coca Nostra, featuring Everlast from House of Pain, The Envy, Biffy Clyro, and the Crash Kings were among the featured bands.



"30 SECONDS TO MARS" TAKES THE MAIN STAGE - The Los Angeles based rock band featuring Jared Leto, lead vocals and rhythm guitar; Shannon Leto on drums; Tomo Milievi lead guitar, violin, and keyboards closed their set on Saturday by bringing fans on stage.

SCOTT MITCHELL, SPECIAL TO THE STAR

EPICENTER 2010



WELCOME RELIEF - Event security use fire hoses to water down the crowd who had to deal with temperatures in excess of 110 degrees.



MIST BEHAVING - Concert goers flocked to the mist from water jets that ran throughout the day and into the night.

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